

DT-6591



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Ulrich Birnbaum et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/638,179

FILED: August 7, 2003

FOR: CONNECTING ELEMENT FOR AN ASSEMBLY SYSTEM

EXAMINER: -- GROUP: --

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants respectfully request that the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449 be made of record and considered in connection with the examination of this application. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed. A translation of the foreign language documents is not readily available.

The documents submitted herewith were cited in a Search Report issued in a German application corresponding to the above-referenced application.

The references do not suggest the arrangement of the claimed connecting element.

The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, accordingly, no fee is required.

It is believed that the subject application is patentably distinguishable over the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

David Toren

David Toren, Reg. No. 19,468

Dated: January 5, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 5, 2004.

David Toren

Form PTO-1449

LIST OF PRIOR ART  
CITED BY APPLICANT

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Init.		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
it	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	COUNTRY	Class	Subclass	TRANSLATION Yes No
	AL	3 8 1 5 2 9	10/86	Austria			X
	AM	8 8 0 5 1 4 3	08/88	Germany			X
	AN	3 9 3 8 8 7 1	05/91	Germany			X
	AO	4 2 3 8 7 0 3	05/94	Germany			X
	AP	9 9 1 0 9 5 7	11/99	Germany			X
	AQ	9 9 3 7 8 9 2	01/01	Germany			X

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED